

**STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
BOARD MEETING SESSION – OFFICE OF RESEARCH PLANNING AND PERFORMANCE
JUNE 18, 2013**

ITEM 5

SUBJECT

PROGRESS UPDATE AND PRESENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS FROM
STAKEHOLDER COORDINATORS ON PHASE 2 OF THE RESOURCE ALIGNMENT
PROJECT: EVALUATING OPPORTUNITIES FOR REDUCING COSTS OF COMPLIANCE.

DISCUSSION

On October 18, 2011 the State Water Board adopted [Resolution No. 2011-0052](#), directing staff to prepare a report assessing and aligning Water Board priorities, resources, and performance targets ([Resource Alignment Report](#)). In August 2012, the Board directed staff to commence work on a second phase of the Resource Alignment Report. Phase 2 of the Resource Alignment Report is described in a staff [workplan for assessing costs of compliance](#) for dischargers subject to Water Board oversight in the NPDES wastewater, stormwater, irrigated lands, and waste discharge requirement programs. The overall workplan goals are to identify and implement opportunities to reduce the costs of compliance in these programs where feasible and to maximize the utility/benefit arising from discharger compliance actions, including benefits to the regulated community and to the environment at large.

The cost of compliance workplan lays out a set of tasks to be carried out jointly by both the Water Boards and cooperating stakeholders. A stakeholder kick-off meeting was held in October 2012 and four stakeholder workgroups have since been formed. The coordinators of each stakeholder group provided a progress update on their activities and approach at the January 22, 2013 and at the April 9, 2013 State Water Board Meetings. At this informational item stakeholder coordinators will provide an update on their progress and the NPDES wastewater workgroup will present specific recommendations for discussion. Following is a list of the coordinators for each stakeholder workgroup.

Stakeholder Group	Stakeholder Coordinator(s)
NPDES wastewater	Bobbi Larson, California Association of Sanitation Agencies Jackie Kepke, Tri-TAC Debbie Webster, Central Valley Clean Water Association
NPDES stormwater	Geoff Brosseau, California Stormwater Quality Association
Irrigated lands	Danny Merkley, California Farm Bureau Federation
Waste discharge to land (WDR)	Bob Gore, The Gualco Group Emily Rooney, Agricultural Council of California

POLICY ISSUE

None at this time. Implementation of the existing workplan for reducing the costs of compliance does not set any specific policy. However, direction to pursue specific recommendations presented by the stakeholder workgroups may lead to future policy considerations.

FISCAL IMPACT

None at this time. However, direction to pursue specific recommendations presented by the stakeholder workgroups may lead to future fiscal considerations.

REGIONAL BOARD IMPACT

No impact at this time. However, direction to pursue specific recommendations presented by the stakeholder workgroups may affect regional board programs in the future.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

None at this time. The State Water Board may provide direction related to either or both the status reports presented by the stakeholder coordinators and the recommendations presented by the NPDES wastewater stakeholder workgroup.

This information item assists the Water Boards in reaching Goal 5 of the Strategic Plan Update: 2008-2012 to improve transparency and accountability. Conducting an assessment of costs compliance, as called for in the proposed workplan, would support Goal 6 of the Strategic Plan by providing opportunities for increased regulatory consistency, efficiency, and predictability.